

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application Number : 09/427,775 Confirmation No.: 3747  
Applicant : Jerry KIDD et al.  
Filed : October 26, 1999  
Title : SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PLASMA PLATING  
TC/Art Unit : 1762  
Examiner: : Marianne L. Padgett

Docket No. : 88742.472005  
Customer No. : 21967

**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSIVE AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Sir:

**AMENDMENT**

This submission is responsive to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed September 7, 2006 indicating minor formatting errors. The amendment filed on June 23, 2006 in response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed March 23, 2006 has been amended to address the items identified as being non-compliant. It should be noted, however, that the Examiner was incorrect in asserting that deletions of 5 or less words "requires" the use of double brackets. The rules specifically state that double brackets "may" be used to show deletion of five or fewer consecutive characters (see 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(2)). Applicants object to this unnecessary delay in the prosecution of this application.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 20 of this paper.